

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 350

By Stevens

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Specialist Josh Webb for earning the 2015 Tennessee National Guard Soldier of the Year award.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those military personnel who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as leaders within their professions and communities; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy individual is Specialist Josh Webb of the Tennessee National Guard, who recently competed in, and won, a grueling, four-day competition held in Smyrna and as a result, has been named the 2015 Tennessee National Guard Soldier of the Year; and

WHEREAS, SPC Webb, a proud member of the 230th Engineer Battalion, competed with other soldiers for the title from March 26–29 in Smyrna, and as Tennessee’s Soldier of the Year, he will compete against soldiers from throughout the Southeast in the regional competition to be held April 18–24 in the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico; and

WHEREAS, SPC Webb excelled in all tasks in the statewide competition, including the six-mile ruck march, land navigation, and simulated stress fire with the M-4 rifle and M9mm handgun, among a number of other physical fitness events; and

WHEREAS, there were fourteen competition events in total, and competitors could earn up to ten points in each event. Even though SPC Webb entered the final day of competition twenty points behind the leader, he remained unbowed when faced with the challenges ahead, and when the final scores were announced, SPC Webb was named the victor, winning by the narrowest of margins; and

WHEREAS, SPC Josh Webb benefitted from the sponsorship and training offered to him by Army Drill Sergeant Trey Baird, SPC Webb's cousin. Drill Sergeant Baird's motivation lent a strength of will and determination to SPC Webb during the competition; and

WHEREAS, as the winner of the statewide competition, SPC Webb has been offered tuition to the Army school of his choice, and he has set his sights on attending Army Air Assault School, Army Airborne School, or Army Sapper School; and

WHEREAS, in addition, SPC Webb received two Army Commendation Medals and a Tennessee National Guard Achievement Medal for his service during the competition; and

WHEREAS, SPC Josh Webb is a 2007 graduate of Milan High School; and

WHEREAS, SPC Webb epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly find it appropriate to pause in their deliberations to acknowledge and applaud SPC Josh Webb for his dedication to the State of Tennessee and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend SPC Josh Webb of the Tennessee National Guard for his meritorious service to the State of Tennessee, applaud his recent earning of the title of Tennessee National Guard Soldier of the Year, and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.